



State of New Jersey  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**  
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES  
PO BOX 360  
TRENTON, N.J. 08625-0360

CHRIS CHRISTIE  
Governor

[www.nj.gov/health](http://www.nj.gov/health)

KIM GUADAGNO  
Lt. Governor

MARY E. O'DOWD, M.P.H.  
Commissioner

September 4, 2013

John Baird

Re: **Notice of Summary Suspension:**  
**EMT Certification # 599537**  
**Investigation Control # 2013-413**

Dear Mr. Baird:

The New Jersey Department of Health (the Department) is vested with the responsibility of carrying out the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 26:2H-1 et seq., Health Care Facilities Planning Act*, which was enacted, in part, to assure that all hospital and related health care services rendered in the State of New Jersey are of the highest quality. As defined at *N.J.S.A. 26:2H-2b*, health care services include any pre-hospital care rendered by basic life support (BLS) personnel. In addition, *N.J.S.A. 26:2K-7 et seq., Emergency Medical Services Act* authorizes the Department to certify Emergency Medical Technician-Basics (EMT-B). In furtherance of the objectives set forth in the statutes, the Department has adopted regulations that govern the training, certification and professional conduct of EMT-B and EMT-B candidates. (See: *N.J.A.C. 8:40A-1.1 Emergency Medical Technicians-Basics: Training and Certification.*)

On August 28, 2013, the Department's Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS) received notification that you were arrested on August 21, 2013 for impersonating a law enforcement officer and possessing a ticket book belonging to the Atlantic City Police Department. Specifically, you presented yourself as an "undercover police" officer to an Evergreens Nursing Home Security Guard while trespassing on their property. In addition, you were found in possession of an Atlantic City Police Department Ticket Book which you told the arresting officer you found years ago. Upon inspection of the ticket book, it was discovered that ten tickets were missing.

As a matter of policy, the OEMS opened an investigation in response to the notification. Thereafter, OEMS investigators contacted the Burlington County Prosecutor's Office. A representative from the Prosecutor's Office confirmed that on August 21, 2013, you were arrested and charged with the following under complaint number S2013-000262-0323:

1. Impersonating a public servant or law enforcement officer which is in violation of 2C:28-8(B).
2. Theft of Property Lost, Misplaced, or Delivered by Mistake which is in violation of 2C:20-6.

N.J.A.C. 8:40A-10.2(a) states:

The Commissioner, or his or her designee, may summarily suspend a person's EMT-Basic and/or EMT-Instructor certification when, in his or her opinion, the continued certification of that person poses an immediate or serious threat to the public health, safety or welfare.

Because of the seriousness of the crimes with which you have been charged, the Department finds that your continued certification as an EMT constitutes an immediate and serious threat to public health, safety, and welfare. **Therefore, your certification as an EMT is immediately suspended and shall remain suspended indefinitely. You may not, under any circumstances, act in the capacity of or perform the duties of an EMT in New Jersey during this period of suspension.**

In accordance with N.J.A.C. 8:40A-7.1(f), certification cards are the property of the Department and shall be immediately surrendered upon demand. You are hereby directed to immediately surrender your EMT certification card(s) to the OEMS, either by sending via United States Postal Service First Class Mail, to the address on the first page of this Notice, or via physical delivery to Department of Health, OEMS, John Fitch Way, Market and Warren Streets, Trenton, NJ, 08611.

In the interim, the OEMS will continue to investigate this matter. You will be notified when the OEMS has completed its investigation, at which time you will be advised of what action(s), if any, will be taken with respect to your EMT certification.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 8:40A-10.3(a), you may appeal to the Commissioner of the Department Health for a hearing before the Office of Administrative Law to contest this summary suspension. If the summary suspension is upheld at the Office of Administrative Law, you may apply for injunctive relief in the Superior Court of New Jersey. Your request for a hearing on this matter must be submitted in writing and must be accompanied by a response to the charges contained herein. Please include the control number **2013-413** on your correspondence, and forward your request to:

New Jersey Department of Health  
Office of Legal & Regulatory Compliance  
P.O. Box 360, Room 805  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0360  
Attn: Ms. Tami Roach



Finally, please note that failure to submit a request for a hearing within 30 days from the date of this Notice shall be interpreted as an acceptance of this Department's decision, thereby negating any further appeal rights. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Mr. Donald Roberts, at (609) 633-7777.

Sincerely,

Karen Halupke, RN, M.Ed.  
Director  
Emergency Medical Services

- c. William Conroy, Deputy Commissioner  
Christopher R. Rinn, Assistant Commissioner  
Allison Gibson, Assistant Commissioner  
Donald Roberts, OEMS  
James Sweeney, OEMS  
Tami Roach, OL&RA

SENT VIA REGULAR U.S. MAIL AND  
CERTIFIED MAIL # 7011 1570 0003 3723 8264  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED